ARUBA TODAY®
Wednesday
August 10, 2022
T: 582-7800
www.arubatoday.com
facebook.com/arubatoday
instagram.com/arubatoday
Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

PLANTation Day at Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino
Page 9

# GOP rallies around Trump following FBI search of his estate

Page 2

Supporters of Donald Trump, members of the media and law enforcement gather near Mar-a-Lago in Palm Beach, Fla., on Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

Associated Press

## Where the cacti go?

Page 10

## Increase in price of water and electricity will be temporary

Page 7

# GOP rallies around Trump following FBI search of his estate

**By STEVE PEOPLES**
**AP National Politics Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP) —** For much of the year, small cracks in Donald Trump's political support have been growing.

Dissatisfied Republican primary voters began to consider new presidential prospects. GOP donors grappled with damaging revelations uncovered by the Jan. 6 committee. S everal party leaders pondered challenging Trump for the party's 2024 nomination.

But after the FBI executed a search warrant at his Florida estate, the Republican Party unified swiftly behind the former president.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who likely represents Trump's strongest potential primary challenger, described the Biden administration as a "regime" and called Monday's Mar-a-Lago search for improperly taken classified documents "another escalation in the weaponization of federal agencies against the Regime's political opponents."

The GOP push to portray Trump as the victim of a politicized Justice Department ignored the potential criminal misconduct that justified the search in the eyes of a federal judge. It overlooked Trump's role in hiring now-vilified FBI Director Chris Wray, who also served as a high-ranking official in a Republican-led Justice Department. The Biden White House, meanwhile, said it had no prior knowledge of the search.

But the robust defense serves as a fresh reminder of the former president's enduring grip on the GOP, driven by an ability to use a sense of grievance among many Republican voters toward government and other institutions. Trump tapped into that animosity to overcome two impeachments and the fallout from an insurrection. His allies said on Tuesday that the FBI search would only strengthen his position again.

"Trump just won the 2024 primary," pro-Trump commentator Jack Posobiec declared. The FBI search also seemed to trigger a shift among Trump's advisers, who had been privately urging him to wait until after the midterm elections to announce his intention to seek the presidency again. Suddenly, some of those same advisers were urging him to launch his campaign before the November elections.

**Armed Secret Service agents stand outside an entrance to former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate, late Monday, Aug. 8, 2022, in Palm Beach, Fla.**

**Associated Press**

Trump stoked such speculation in the hours after the search by posting a campaign-style video on social media. "The best is yet to come," he said.

He followed up with a fundraising appeal, making it personal by declaring "it's important that you know that it wasn't just my home that was violated — it was the home of every patriotic American who I have been fighting for."

In Columbia, South Carolina, Sen. Lindsey Graham said he spoke with Trump and felt sure another campaign was coming.

"One thing I can tell you," Graham said. "I believed he was going to run before. I'm stronger in my belief now."

As Republicans rallied behind Trump, Democrats pushed back against GOP claims of political interference, without evidence. Some accused the GOP of a departure from its longstanding commitment to "law and order."

"The FBI director was appointed by Donald Trump," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Asked if the raid might hurt Democrats in the November elections, she said, "You're talking about if the Justice Department decides to have a warrant to go in because they suspect something is justified, it's going to have an impact on the election? No, no, no, no, no."

Some of Trump's most vocal Republican critics still shied away from embracing the former president. And it was unclear how rank-and-file Republican voters and independents frustrated by Trump's divisive leadership might be moved by the new developments.

Former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, a former federal prosecutor and one of many Republicans considering a 2024 presidential bid, noted Tuesday that a federal judge had to sign off on the warrant.

"The former president is presumed innocent," Christie said in an interview. "On the other hand, we can't immediately impugn the motives of the prosecutors just because they're from another political party."

"It's an extraordinary action. And there better be some pretty extraordinary facts to underlie it. If there are, then they have every right to do it."

And some other Republican officials seemed to express continued concerns about Trump by refusing to weigh in at all.

The relatively short list of those GOP leaders who remained silent Tuesday afternoon was led by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, who has privately encouraged his party to move past Trump. The Kentucky Republican declined to react when asked to weigh in during a stop in his home state, which is reeling from devastating storms.

"I'm here today to talk about the flood and recovery from the flood," McConnell said.

But the overwhelming majority — from House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy to DeSantis, accused the Biden administration of "weaponizing" the Justice Department and ignored any potential wrongdoing by Trump.

"The GOP now fully embraces the notion that Trump should, indeed, be above the law, and that Trump 2.0 will be a bonfire of vengeance," wrote Republican commentator Charlie Sykes, a frequent Trump critic.

Former Vice President Mike Pence, who is gearing up for a presidential run of his own, said he shared "the deep concerns of millions of Americans" over the search of Trump's private residence.

He stopped short of attacking the FBI, however. Instead, he said Attorney General Merrick Garland should "give a full accounting to the American people as to why this action was taken and he must do so immediately."

Hawley called the search "an unprecedented assault on democratic norms and the rule of law." He called for Garland's resignation or impeachment and the removal of FBI Director Wray.

Cotton said Garland had "weaponized" the Justice Department against his political enemies. "There will be consequences for this," he warned.

Also from Arkansas, Gov. Asa Hutchinson, still another Republican weighing a 2024 run, called the search "unprecedented and alarming." But like Pence, he added, "We must see the probable cause affidavit before making a judgment."

The search intensified the months-long probe into how classified documents ended up in boxes of White House records located at Mar-a-Lago earlier this year. A separate grand jury is investigating efforts by Trump and allies to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.

In late June, long before the latest development, 48% of U.S. adults said that Trump should be charged with a crime for his role in the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol, according to a poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research.

Views on Trump's criminal liability broke down predictably along party lines, with 86% of Democrats and 10% of Republicans saying Trump should be charged. Still, the fact that nearly half the country believed he should be prosecuted represents a remarkable position for the former president, pointing to the difficulties he could face in another White House run.❑

# Renaming Army bases that honor Confederates would cost $21M

**By BEN FINLEY**
**Associated Press**

**NORFOLK, Va. (AP) —** Renaming nine U.S. Army posts that honor Confederate officers would cost a total of $21 million if the installations rebrand everything from welcome marquees and street signs to water towers and hospital doors, according to an independent commission.

The Naming Commission released its final report on recommending the new Army base names to Congress on Monday. It included a 17-page list of assets that are tied to the Confederacy, from the decals on 300 recycling bins at Fort Bragg in North Carolina to the sign for a softball field at Fort Hood in Texas.

The report is the latest step in a broader effort by the military to confront racial injustice, most recently in the aftermath of the May 2020 police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis.

The renaming process was laid out in a law passed by Congress in late 2020. The secretary of defense is expected to implement the commission's plan no later than Jan. 1, 2024.

Monday's report provided detailed — and sometimes unflattering — descriptions of the Confederate officers whose names would be removed as well as the accomplishments of those whose names would replace them. Fort Bragg is the only base that would not be named after a person. It would be called Fort Liberty.

The commission wrote that Fort Benning in Georgia was named after a "lawyer, ardent secessionist, bitter opponent of abolition and senior officer in the Confederate Army."

The report stated that Henry L. Benning "is on record as saying that he would rather be stricken with illness and starvation than see slaves liberated and given equality as citizens."

The commission recommends renaming the base after a married couple: Lt. Gen. Hal Moore, who served in Vietnam and received the Distinguished Service Cross, and his wife Julia, who prompted the creation of teams that do in-person notifications of military casualties.

Renaming the base would cost just under $5 million, the report stated. The effort would target anything from the wording on airfield doors to the name of an airstrip. It would also include removing Confederate names from paver stones on a walk to a memorial that honors U.S. Army Rangers.

Fort Bragg, which is home to the 82nd Airborne Division, was named after a "slave-owning plantation owner and senior Confederate Army officer," the report said.

Braxton Bragg is "considered one of the worst generals of the Civil War; most of the battles he was involved in ended in defeat and resulted in tremendous losses for the Confederate Army; highly consequential to the ultimate defeat of the Confederacy," the commission wrote.

Renaming the base to Fort Liberty would cost about $6.3 million, the report said. It would include rebranding 45 police vehicles and 15 emergency services vehicles, such as fire engines and ambulances.

The other bases recommended for renaming are Fort A.P. Hill, Fort Lee and Fort Pickett in Virginia; Fort Gordon in Georgia, Fort Hood in Texas, Fort Polk in Louisiana and Fort Rucker in Alabama.

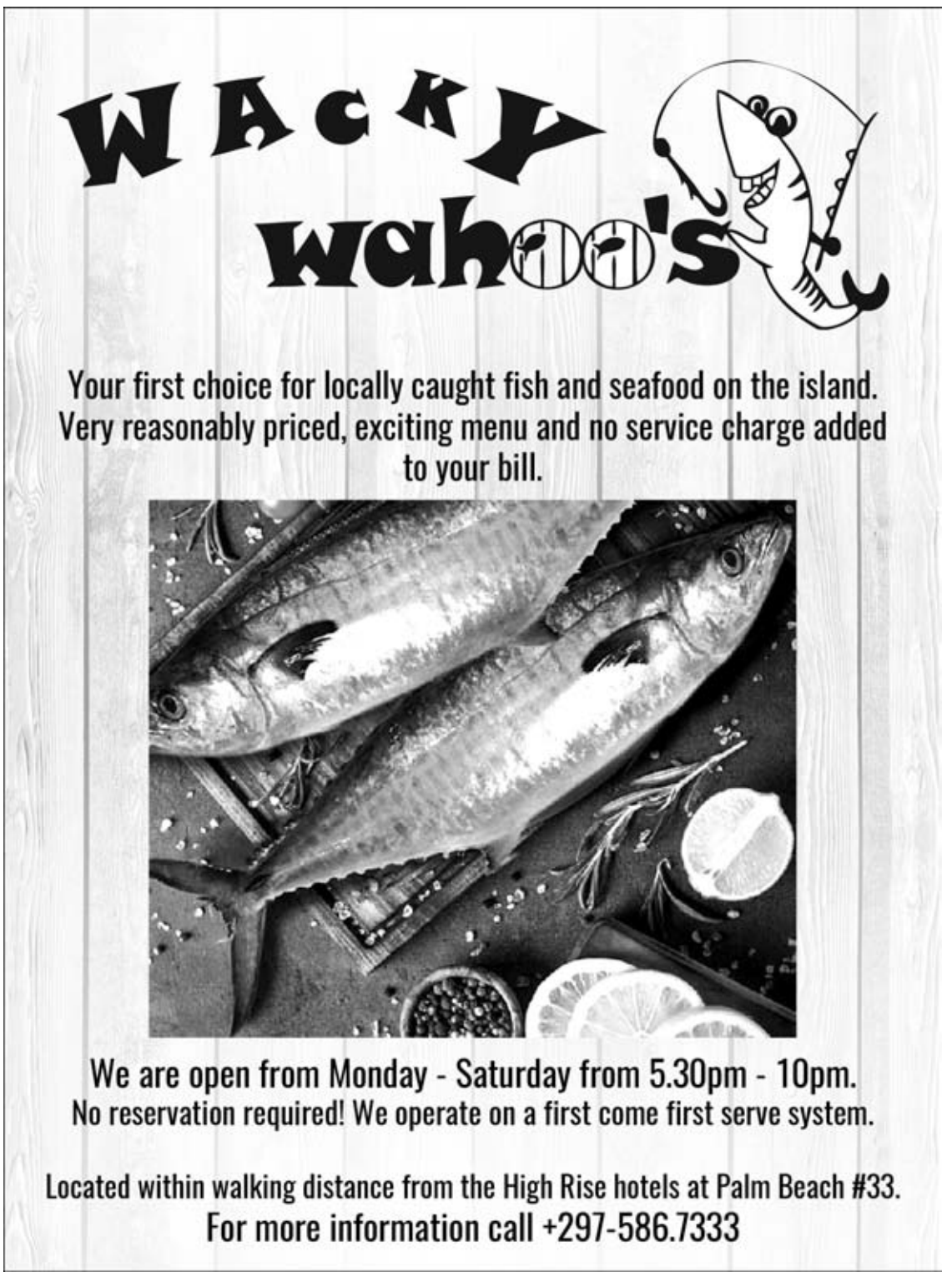
For years, U.S. military officials had defended the naming of bases after Confederate officers. But in the aftermath of the Floyd killing, and the months of racial unrest that followed, Congress ordered a comprehensive plan to rename the military posts and hundreds of other federal assets such as roads, buildings, memorials, signs and landmarks that honored rebel leaders.

The change in the military's thinking was reflected in congressional testimony by Army Gen. Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, a month after Floyd's death. He said the current base names could be reminders to Black soldiers that rebel officers fought for an institution that may have enslaved their ancestors.

The Naming Commission said subsequent installments of the final report will address assets at the military academies and other places within the Department of Defense.❑

**Fort Bragg is seen on Feb. 3, 2022, in Fort Bragg, N.C. An independent commission said Monday, Aug. 8, 2022 that renaming nine U.S. Army posts that commemorate Confederate officers would cost $21 million.**

**Associated Press**



# Chicago top prosecutor: 7 convictions tied to ex-cop vacated

**CHICAGO (AP) —** The Cook County state's attorney's office on Tuesday said judges have vacated seven murder convictions connected to a retired Chicago police detective accused of framing others who were sent to prison.

An eighth cases remains, pending further court proceedings.

State's Attorney Kim Foxx told reporters that her office no longer will oppose post-conviction litigation in the eight cases following a 2019 review of cases related to allegations of police misconduct involving Reynaldo Guevara.

"We no longer believe in the validity of these convictions or the credibility of the evidence of these convictions," Foxx said.

**In this Feb. 1, 2022 file photo, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx speaks during a news conference in Chicago.**

**Associated Press**

The seven cases dismissed Tuesday involved slayings committed between 1989 and 1994.

Five defendants already have completed prison sentences and are no longer in custody. Two others are expected to be released, while one remains in custody pending further court proceedings.

Two dozen cases already have been vacated and action on three additional cases is expected in the coming weeks.

Guevara — a former member of a police department dogged by decades of scandal, cover-ups and brutality — has never been charged with a crime. Foxx said her office is reviewing possible charges against Guevara, who retired in 2005 and is receiving a city police pension and a Chicago Park District pension.

He helped inmates win freedom by repeatedly invoking his constitutional right against self-incrimination or insisting that he couldn't remember facts, thus forcing prosecutors to dismiss charges in several cases.

In one case, after he was granted immunity by prosecutors, he answered repeatedly that he didn't remember confessions that he elicited from two men ultimately convicted of murder. The judge characterized his comments as "bald-faced lies" and threw out the confessions.

"Could we try these cases again today without the work of Detective Guevara?" Foxx said Tuesday. "Based on our review, we are not able to retry these cases."

She added that additional investigations could be conducted "to see if, in fact, someone else committed these crimes."

Last September, Chicago's City Council agreed to pay $20.5 million to two of at least a dozen men whose murder convictions were dismissed after allegedly being framed by Guevara.

The lawsuits were filed on behalf of Armando Serrano and Jose Montanez who spent 23 years in prison before they were released in 2016. A key witness in their case admitted that he had lied about hearing them confess because Guevara had threatened to beat him if he didn't.

In 2009, a jury awarded $21 million to a man who spent 11 years in prison before he was retried and acquitted because witnesses testified that Guevara intimidated them into falsely identifying the man as the killer. The city later agreed to pay $16.4 million.

Another jury awarded $17 million in 2018 to a man who made similar allegations.

Foxx said Tuesday that she would not discount the impact each case had on the defendants and their families.

"While we focused on the allegations of misconduct, we did not want to lose sight that lives were lost and the impact that our decision could have on the families of victims who believed that justice had been served by these convictions," she added. "We looked at these cases with a careful lens to ensure that we got it right."❑

**A mature marijuana plant begins to bloom under artificial lights at Loving Kindness Farms in Gardena, Calif., May 20, 2019.**

**Associated Press**

# Missouri voters set to weigh in on recreational marijuana

**By SUMMER BALLENTINE**
**Associated Press**

**COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) —** A campaign to legalize recreational marijuana in Missouri gathered enough signatures to make it on the November ballot, Republican Secretary of State Jay Ashcroft announced Tuesday.

If voters approve the constitutional amendment on marijuana, those age 21 and older could buy and grow it for personal consumption as early as this year.

"We look forward to engaging with voters across the state in the coming weeks and months," Legal-Mo22 campaign manager John Payne said. "Missourians are more than ready to end the senseless and costly prohibition of marijuana."

Missouri voters approved medical marijuana use in 2018. Efforts to allow recreational marijuana use have failed to pass Missouri's Republican-led Legislature for years, prompting advocates to go to voters for approval instead.

Recreational marijuana is already legal in 19 states, and legalization proposals are on the ballot this fall in South Dakota and Maryland. Supporters are also trying to get measures on the ballot in Arkansas, North Dakota and Oklahoma.

Backers of the Missouri ballot proposal are highlighting a provision that would erase past marijuana-related convictions for nonviolent offenders and those whose conviction didn't include selling to minors or driving while high.

Local NAACP chapters, the American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri, criminal defense lawyers and other civil rights advocacy groups endorsed automatic expungement, and it could broaden support for the initiative among Republican criminal justice advocates.

Seven other states with legal recreational marijuana have also adopted automatic expungement policies.

Marijuana sales would be taxed at 6% under the Missouri measure. The tax is estimated to bring in more than $46 million during the first full year the amendment is in effect and close to $70 million the following year. Revenues would be earmarked for veterans' homes, drug treatment programs and public defenders.

Cities and other municipalities could enact local sales taxes on recreational marijuana up to 3% or enact local bans on non-medical marijuana sales by a public vote.❑

# Estonia, Finland want Europe to end Russian tourist visas

**Finland's Prime Minister Sanna Marin, left, speaks with Estonia's Prime Minister Kaja Kallas during a round table meeting at an Eastern Partnership Summit in Brussels, on Dec. 15, 2021.**
**Associated Press**

**By JAN M. OLSEN**
**Associated Press**

**COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) —** The leaders of Estonia and Finland want fellow European countries to stop issuing tourist visas to Russian citizens, saying they should not be able to take vacations in Europe while the Russian government carries out a war in Ukraine.

Estonian Prime Minister Kaja Kallas wrote Tuesday on Twitter that "visiting Europe is a privilege, not a human right" and that it is "time to end tourism from Russia now."

A day earlier, her counterpart in Finland, Sanna Marin, told Finnish broadcaster YLE that "it is not right that while Russia is waging an aggressive, brutal war of aggression in Europe, Russians can live a normal life, travel in Europe, be tourists."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy went further in a Washington Post interview Monday, saying all Western countries should ban Russian tourists.

Estonia and Finland both border Russia and are members of the European Union, which banned air travel from Russia after it invaded Ukraine. But Russians can still travel by land to both countries and apparently are then taking flights to other European destinations.

The calls for a travel ban have sparked outrage within Russia, from both the Kremlin and its critics. Opposition-minded public figures condemned the comments in social media posts as fueling Moscow's anti-Western propaganda and being unhelpful in stopping the war.

"I think that over time, common sense will somehow manifest itself, and those who made such statements will come to their senses," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Tuesday.

YLE reported last week that Russian companies have started offering car trips from St. Petersburg to the airports of Helsinki and Lappeenranta in Finland, which have direct connections to several places in Europe. Russia's second-largest city is about 300 kilometers (186 miles) from the Finnish capital.

Visas issued by Finland are valid across most of Europe's travel zone, known as the "Schengen area" which is made up of 26 countries: 22 EU nations plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. Normally, people and goods move freely between these countries without border checks. Nineteen other countries outside this travel area allow in foreigners using a Schengen visa.

Finland just resumed accepting applications for tourist visas in Russia on July 1, lifting monthslong travel restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Some EU countries no longer issue visas to Russians, including Latvia, which made that decision this month because of the war.

The visa issue is expected be discussed at an informal meeting of EU foreign ministers on Aug. 31, YLE reported.

"I would believe that in future European Council meetings, this issue will come up even more strongly. My personal position is that tourism should be restricted," Marin told the Finnish broadcaster.

Peskov on Tuesday said calls for travel bans are usually coming from countries that Moscow has already deemed "hostile" and "many of those countries in their hostility sink into oblivion."

Putin's close associate and deputy head of Russia's Security Council, Dmitry Medvedev, dismissed the Estonian premier's statement, adding ominously: "I just want to remind her of another saying: 'The fact that you are free is not your merit, but our flaw.'"

Zelenskyy told The Washington Post that "the most important sanctions are to close the borders" for Russian travelers, "because the Russians are taking away someone else's land."❑

**Passions on the Beach's 'I Still Do! Dinner menu**
Passions on the Beach allows couples to enjoy a true toes-in-the-sand dining experience along one of the world's top-ranked beaches, Eagle Beach. From the calming sounds of the ocean waves and live instrumentals to the soft light reflecting off the ocean as the sun sets and the moon rises, dining at Passions on the Beach is truly an unparalleled and unforgettable experience. In connection with the 4th edition of the 'I Do! Vow renewal on Thursday August 11th, couples are invited to indulge at Passions on the Beach afterwards for our most romantic night yet – complete with a special I Still Do! menu designed to celebrate and ignite love. Here's to forever after!

# Nagasaki marks A-bombing anniversary amid nuclear war fears

**By MARI YAMAGUCHI**
**Associated Press**

**TOKYO (AP) —** Nagasaki paid tribute to the victims of the U.S. atomic bombing 77 years ago on Aug. 9, with the mayor saying Russia's war on Ukraine showed the world that another nuclear attack is not just a worry but "a tangible and present crisis."

Mayor Tomihisa Taue, in his speech Tuesday at the Nagasaki Peace Park, said nuclear weapons can be used as long as they exist, and their elimination is the only way to save the future of humankind.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine and threat of nuclear weapons use came only a month after it and four other nuclear powers pledged in a statement that nuclear war should never be fought, Taue noted.

"This has shown the world that the use of nuclear weapons is not a groundless fear but a tangible and present crisis," he said. The belief that nuclear weapons can be possessed not for actual use but for deterrence "is a fantasy, nothing more than a mere hope."

As in Hiroshima, Russia and its ally Belarus were not invited to the memorial event in Nagasaki.

**Doves fly over the Peace Statue during a ceremony to mark the 77th anniversary of the U.S. atomic bombing at the Peace Park in Nagasaki, southern Japan, Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022.**
**Associated Press**

The United States dropped the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, destroying the city and killing 140,000 people. It dropped a second bomb three days later on Nagasaki, killing another 70,000. Japan surrendered on Aug. 15, ending World War II and Japan's nearly half-century of aggression in Asia.

Participants, including diplomats from nuclear states, observed a moment of silence at 11:02 a.m., the moment the bomb exploded above the southern Japanese city on Aug. 9, 1945. Although Russia last week tried to roll back on Putin's warning, fears of a third atomic bombing have grown amid Russia's threats of nuclear attack since its war on Ukraine began in February. Russia last week shelled a Ukrainian city close to Europe's largest nuclear plant.

Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said, "Even though we face a severe security environment, we must pursue the history of non-nuclear use and make Nagasaki the last place of nuclear attack."

Japanese officials worry that the conflict may embolden China to be even more assertive in East Asia, and the government is pushing to further step up its military capability and spending.

Japan renounces its own possession, production or hosting of nuclear weapons, but as a U.S. ally Japan hosts 50,000 American troops and is protected by the U.S. nuclear umbrella. Still, Russia's nuclear threat has prompted some hawkish lawmakers in the governing party have also proposed a possibility of nuclear sharing with the United States. Taue said discussions about nuclear disarmament and nonproliferation over the past decades have not been put into practice and trust in the 1968 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons has become "tenuous."

"We must recognize that ridding ourselves of nuclear weapons is the only realistic way of protecting the Earth and humankind's future," Taue said.

Taue urged Japan's government to exercise leadership in pursuing peace diplomacy that does not rely on nuclear deterrence. ❑

# Deputy Secretary Sherman says U.S. 'doubling down' on Pacific

**By NICK PERRY**
**Associated Press**

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) —** The United States is doubling down on its investment in the Pacific, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman said Tuesday as she concluded a five-nation visit to the region where China has been making inroads.

"The future will be written here in the Pacific," Sherman said at an agreement-signing event in New Zealand's capital, Wellington.

Critics have accused the U.S. of neglecting the region and allowing China's influence to flourish.

The Solomon Islands in April signed a security pact with China in a move that has alarmed many in the Pacific who fear it could lead to a military buildup. The U.S. earlier this year announced plans to reopen an embassy in the Solomons, where on Sunday Prime Minister Manasseh Sogavare skipped a service commemorating the Battle of Guadalcanal that Sherman she and other dignitaries attended.

Sherman said the U.S. has always been a Pacific nation. She said it has been a priority for President Joe Biden to rebuild alliances and relationships around the world, and officials were using "every vehicle possible" to collaborate with Pacific partners.

**U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman, left, hands New Zealand Economic and Regional Development Minister Stuart Nash a NASA t-shirt Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022, during an agreement-signing event in Wellington, New Zealand.**
**Associated Press**

"And so we are doubling down on our investment here in the Pacific," Sherman said. "Our relationships, our partnerships, regional organizations."

Asked if she felt the U.S. or China was winning the battle for influence in the region, Sherman said she didn't see it quite that way. "It's not so much a battle," she said. "I think that countries try to have relations with every country they believe will help them move forward.

And the United States does not ask any country to choose between us and China, or any other country and China."

She said the U.S. wanted a level playing field and respect for the rules-based international order that was put in place after World War II, a system that had helped China rise and which ought to benefit all nations.

Sherman said she had discussed China among a number of topics in a meeting with New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern.

Sherman signed agreements to collaborate more closely with New Zealand on space missions and emergency management.

It was the final stop on a trip that had taken her to Samoa, Tonga, the Solomon Islands and Australia.❑

## *Minister of Energy, Labor and Integration:*

# Increase in price of water and electricity will be temporary

**ORANJESTAD – On th 9th of December, Aruba took another step to distinguish itself in the Caribbean region as the first country to operate on the basis of clean energy from 2024, on the journey to fulfill the Paris agreement by 2050.**

In a press release, the minister of Energy and the Second Wever-Croes Cabinet elaborated on their vision:
The management of the field of energy is focused on durability, sustainability, accessibility and quality.
It is focused on producing energy that is affordable, sustainable, durable and clean for companies and households in Aruba.

Reduce CO2 emissions with 45 percent in the year 2030 for a sustainable environment, in order to comply with the goals of the United Nations to combat the effects of global warming with 1.5° C.

Achieve compliance with the Paris agreement for 2050, where Aruba will also contribute to a healthy, sustainable environment that is carbon neutral.

Through improvement in the efficiency of the Utilities companies through projects like RECIP4/SWRO3, it will be possible to reduce the use of heavy fuel oil (HFO) for the production of electricity, from 3.679 Bbl per day, to around 2.800 Bbl per day. And after achieving a transition of around 50 percent to renewable energy, further reduce the use of heavy fuel oil to less and 2.000 Bbl per day by 2030.

Increase solar and wind energy from 20 percent in 2020, to 35 percent in 2024, with a minimum of 50 percent by 2030.

Increase the use of electric vehicles to 15 percent by 2030.

Increase energy efficiency in residences and companies with 15 percent in 2030.

Reduce the island's dependence and consumption of crude oil in a transition to alternative solar and wind energy, on the path to introducing hydrogen energy.

According to minister Croes, the national policy on energy has the goal of diversifying energy sources.

Introduction of gas will bring a lot of benefits to our country: for energy production, for refinery, on the industrial area, and eventually even automobilist transport and homes in Aruba. The project for an installation of LNG will make it so that Aruba can become a hub to store said product in the Caribbean.

**Refinery or other investment**
Regarding the Refinery, the Government and RdA (Aruba's Refinery) held meetings with different investors and operators for the refinery. The efforts will continue for this. Regarding the terrain and port terminal of the Refinery, the government's intention is that under the economic stimulus for and in San Nicolas, to operate and reactivate the port and terminal in question, commercially and industrially.

In order to achieve the implementation of the national policy for Energy, it is important to realize the following points:

- Actualize and modernize the law and regulation of energy and drinking water.
- Restructure the current fee structure as a catalyst for the energetic transition. ❑

# Minister of Education and Sport received presentation from Caribbean Active Aging Congress

**ORANJESTAD – Recently Minister of Education and Sport, Endy Croes met with Mr. Rudy Leysner, Mrs. Rosa Leon and Mr. Harold de Miranda from the Fundacion Movemiento ta Bida. This foundation is focused on the well-being of older adults, organizing various activities and programs for this group in the physical sense, sport, as well as the social and educational aspect.**

The vision and mission of the foundation is to bring awareness and activities to encourage the older adults in Aruba to not be afraid, remain active, not to sit sill, and to opt for a happier and healthier life.

During the meeting, Fundacion Movemiento ta Bida gave the sports minister a thorough presentation of their project C.A.A.C. II, Caribbean Active Aging Congress, which will take place on the 1st and 2nd of October, 2022. The goal of the conference is to bring awareness, and to prepare Aruba and the Caribbean regarding the aging population and the problems that come with it if no action is taken right now. Equally important is to increase the abilities of older adults to remain active and healthy and live independently in the community.

During the congress there will be local and international speakers. The topic of the congress is aging in Aruba, guidance and support to the caregivers, palliative care in Aruba, as well as to prepare for a better tomorrow.

Minister Croes thanked the foundation for their visit and presentation, and said they can count on the support of the Ministry of Sport.❑

Are you ready to secure the best value for a guaranteed Aruba stay?
Come and visit Caribbean Palm Village Resort
Aruba's largest timeshare suites available in all weeks for attractive prices
Caribbean Palm Village Resort Noord 43-E, Palm Beach Road, Aruba
laura.croes@cpvr.com +297 526 2883 +1 (786) 672 0384
Caribbean PALM VILLAGE RESORT

*With outstanding hospitality and just-right annual vacations*

# Caribbean Palm Village Resort represents a great value with its unique vacation community

**NOORD, Aruba – The mood is often joyful at the Caribbean Palm Village Resort (CPVR) as members and loyal guests return each year to share the special bond of a community formed over years of visits to their own special spot in Aruba. With a 35-year history of providing just-right annual vacations and facilitating flourishing lifelong friendships, CPVR is a beloved vacation ownership property where the daily meet-up poolside in spacious, palm-lined courtyards is a favorite part of the stay.**

This private, full service resort offers a tranquil, secluded spot, where easy familiarity, high spirits, and laughter mark the strength and vibrancy of Caribbean Palm Village Resort's very special ambiance. Friendliness among fellow members and guests as well as employees remains a regular staple of a CPVR stay, often aided by activities coordinator Mislady Fingal, who is always ready to share her high energy and infectious positive mood.

"We are a tight-knit, welcoming group here. You see this every day and especially on check-out days, when the ritual of departure includes warm goodbyes and hugs before heading to the airport," remarks one owner who has happily owned at the CVPV for three decades. "There are many different types of resorts in Aruba, but we love to stay at CPVR because it is an unhurried atmosphere with all the service perks of a regular resort. We never have to fight to get a pool lounger, and there's always an opportunity to relax among friends and enjoy the resort amenities as well as enjoy access to the many great restaurants and activities nearby."

This Noord-based timeshare resort offers a peaceful home base that is only

a short drive from Aruba's bustling high-rise Palm Beach area, and continues to deliver happiness daily and countless treasured memories over the long term. Its unique, intimate resort environment continues features the largest suites in Aruba as well as two large pools in wide courtyard settings. It provides a private, attractive place to enjoy Aruba's cooling winds and ever-present sun for a truly idyllic vacation experience.

The suites offerings, available in Studio, One-Bedroom and Two-Bedroom are spacious and allow owners and guests a comfortable environment with the convenience of fully equipped kitchens. The property also features several BBQ areas and an on-property restaurant as well as bar areas both by the restaurant and right by the pool for swim-up service. The attractions are not limited to the property with concierge services offered through its Activities Department. All-in-all, it provides an excellent option for an Aruba stay at a great value.

Everday reunions, activities and interactions among members, guests and employees remain a constant at this well-established happy place on one happy island. Caribbean Palm Village Resort is located off Palm Beach Road at Noord 43-E, and remains a welcoming community for longtime visitors as well as first time guests alike. Feel free to check it out with a visit and a chat with the on-property Sales Associate Laura Croes, or give her a call in Aruba at Tel: 526-2883 or from the US: 786-672-0384.❑

infini by Urvin Croes
Welcome at our table
Step inside our meticulously designed Chef's Table restaurant, located on scenic Eagle Beach, for a 12-course menu prepared in front of your very own eyes.
Taste sensational dishes made by the team led by Chef Urvin Croes, where they explore without boundaries and offer a dining experience you will never forget.
Let us take you on a culinary journey
Chef Urvin Croes
www.infiniaruba.com

# PLANTation Day at Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino

**Palm Beach - Recently the Blue Energy committee of the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino organized a PLANTation celebration, an appreciation day in which departments exchanged plants and thoughtful cards with each other.**

This initiative brought joy and enthusiasm to the workplace as many of the team members are gardeners at heart.

The Engineering department started the thread by awarding a planter to Food & Beverage who paid it forward to Front Office, who in turn delivered to the Kitchen.

Each department then kept the chain of sharing going, granting a symbol of life and growth throughout the hotel from Purchasing and Accounting to Security, Commercial, Housekeeping, Recreation, Spa, Executive office, wrapping up with Engineering, completing the circle of sharing.

While not everyone is blessed with a green thumb, plant lovers were pleased with the gift exchange, and marveled at the gratitude expressed by each department to one another while adding warmth and light to each area.

Engineering remarked that easy-care varieties of plants were selected, and since every department was included, no one was green with envy!❑

Article by Etnia Nativa

WhatsApp us 592 2702 and book your Aruban experience!

Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels

# Where the cacti go?

## *Episode CLXVI -166*

**Etnia Nativa through Island Insight facilitates cultural awareness, education and safeguards Aruba's heritage by elevating each reader into an island guardian state of mind. Be encouraged to discover in every episode the true native effect, live it and unveil more reasons to love Aruba behind our beaches by spicing up your stay in an incredibly wonderful way through this cultural blog.**

Our island is a tiny tourist destination with a fragile ecosystem, covering thousands of years of history. Here is where Etnia Nativa's main objective comes to mind through educating the readers over Aruba's heritage. We believe in when you love and value what you have; ones greatest desire becomes to protect it.

In this episode we want to share a beautiful project with you that remains in the memory which message behind the expore grettably did not receive the cultural awareness and respond it had deserve. Etnia Nativa had the joy of participating in the person of our curator Mr. Anthony Croes with the work called "Breba pa unda"? wich mean: (Where are we going to Mr. Cactus?)

This fabulose open air expo was another iniciative an also renowned local as well as international artist in the person of Mr. Stan Kuiperi and his Aruba International Arts Foundation, project known as "Trankera di Arte" or Art fance.

This happening was inaugurated by Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Willem Alexander and Princess Máxima on October 28, 2011 during this official opening of the first phase of the new Linear Park project in Oranjestad. It was a very special day for the public and all the 26 participants, where each one very well chosen by the curator Kuiperi, since they are all top recognized local contemporary artists. Each artist had received a standard three-dimensional plywood cactus model mounted on a platform, a sculpture scelleton which purpose was to represent a "tall cadushi" (tall candelabra cactus). The name of the project alluded to the "trankera" that since the time of our ancestors traditionally used these tall cactus among other xerofitic vegetation to close and thus delimit each plot of land intended to be exploited. A "trankera", a tall cactus hedge that was impenetrable.

The project itself had as its main inspirational purpose and the preservation of the natural environment of Aruba. The objective was to raise awareness of our local environmental problems and natural historical elements of our existance, specifically the role of tall cacti on the desert landscape of our island.

This all because of our astonishment and indignation how devastating and destructive uncontroled development can affect our daily spiritual peace and health in general.Artist, envioramentalist and nature lover are still fighting for the conservation of thenatural and native environment, we saw how one by one "the cadushies" were being demolished giving way to more and more buildings and constuctions.

Etnia Nativa`s participation with its own wooden sceleton, provided by the Aruba International Arts Foundation, exposing a sculpture which was dressed up for the occasion with the appropriate tones, accompanied by the deterioration that silently devours our islands environment and still a matter's today. This particulatr art work was elaborated solely with recycled material, in which our artist expresed his concern to the world showing what was realy happening through "progress" on his beloved rock.

With "Breba pa unda", we had achieved an artistic objective. However the work of bringing and create awareness on a higer consiousness regarding our natural enviroment is an daiy task by exposing the deterioration of our natural heritage as the result of unsustainable development.

Thus, each of the 4 wind directions, parts of the three-dimensional sculpture took on a special meaning and design. The color green ( recycled garden hose) represented the nature of Aruba, the brown color (burnt polystyrene) showed the nature that Aruba have lost while the other two remaining parts represents; one had the color of the original Aruban flag colurs and the other the symbols of our indigenous heritage.

Trankera di Arte was an extraordinary collective public art project that knew how to combine contemporary art, nature and cultural history but unfortunately did not stop the fall of "the tall cadushis" many of which have been lost forever!

If you love Aruba its origins and its cultural heritage, be part of the exclusive visitors of Etnia Nativa: a cozy museum/home.

Etnia Nativa a private residential houses collections of native art, archaeological artifacts and historic furniture, while the facilities themselves are the result of the transformation of recycled materials. Meet Anthony Croes, our columnist at his home! Book your visit Whatsapp + 297 592 2702- or mail: etnianativa03@gmail.com.❑

## *Meet Ayrton Tromp:*

# From restless child to disciplined photographer

**From a restless child who was bored with everything, to one of the most sought-after professional photographers in Aruba. We're talking about Ayrton Tromp (25), who thanks to his parents' 'no', learned to appreciate all that he can achieve on his own: From nature photographer to photographer for His Majesty King Willem Alexander of the Netherlands and his wife Queen Maxima. All this in only ten years.**

Ayrton was always artistic, but easily distracted. When he was 11 years old already he realized he could work easier with images. And when he was 14, he expressed to his parents that he wanted to try photography. But because Ayrton was never consistent with what he started, his parents didn't want to give him what he wanted, and surely not invest in a camera, which isn't cheap. Consequently, the 14 year old decided to go to the supermarket close to his house and get a job during his vacation, and for weeks he filled bags of groceries. That way he saved and got 1,500 florin, and Ayrton went to Boolchand's, and so the photographer was born.

"I was very ashamed to talk about what I did. In the beginning, I was influenced by friends and watched how my friends got the latest phone, the latest computer. But my parents didn't want to buy the camera, because I was the kid who didn't stick to anything. After a few months of doing something, I would get fed up." And know, Ayrton understands, because he got tired with everything he did before.

Ayrton started taking pictures of plants, flowers, animals, and all that surrounded him at home. And using Facebook, he shared his pictures, which caught attention right away. "Recently someone asked me when I'm going to go back to nature photography", he commented. [red. On the day of the interview, Ayrton published some nature images, with the comment that he decided to go back to his roots, for a moment.]

Currently, most of his energy goes into his work. Photography is his hobby, but it's also his responsibility. And what always remains, from the beginning, is his own style. "Those who know me know that I never want to be like someone else. I want something different. I want to be apart. I never want to imitate another. I can say that I could come up with a way to present an image in a different way." Even though it was a risk, it worked for Ayrton, because his style opened doors to him. "I managed for people to recognize my pictures without me having to put my name. For me, it's weird because I just do something I like. Logically I'm happy, but I don't know how I managed. I think it's because I really like photography and I give it hundred percent of myself in it."

It didn't take long for the young nature photographer to get commercial opportunities. He was in secondary school when he received his first offer for a commercial job. "I was sixteen, in the middle of exams, and my mom was helping me reply to the person to tell them that at that moment I had to focus on school." But the opportunities didn't stop, and once he was in higher education (EPI), as a 17 year old, Ayrton started to combine work with school. Each free hour he spent working on photography, for magazines and even for Aruba Tourism Authority.

Ayrton was even invited to take pictures during the Royal Visit. "I skipped school to be able to do the job. The other students were asking me if I knew what I was doing, because EPI requires presence at school, which counts towards your grades. On top of it, my own mother was a teacher at EPI." Even so, Ayrton took the risk and got the opportunity to document the visit of King Willem Alexander and Queen Maxima, and even found himself presenting a gift to the royal couple. "I was doing what I really liked. And remember, I didn't even have a driver's license, so I had to walk to get to the photoshoots."

When Ayrton turned 18, he knew he had to start his own company. And the Chamber of Commerce didn't believe in him, and wanted to put the company in his mother's name. But the young man was determined, because without a company registry from the Chamber of Commerce he wasn't allowed to take on jobs. But the institution indicated that he needed to have Afl. 10,000 cash in his account to be able to open his company. "Now I know that wasn't necessary. But I had to wait a few months until I could gather Afl. 10,000 and so start my own company."

And in the next six years, Ayrton expanded his portfolio with pictures of weddings and other events. He received a lot of guidance from other professional photographers, who he admires, including Luis Mejia, Crooze Photographers, and Kenneth Theysen. But always with his own style, creating a bond with his customers. "I want to know my clients, I want to keep my job fun." Because to achieve quality and reputation is easy, that's his talent and desire; but the job requires contact, meeting the client's demands, and deliver a good product. "Work ethic is extremely important. Everything has to go smoothly."

And so the young man who was bored with everything found his rhythm. A profession that carries risk became his anchor, which helped him brave even the pandemic, when there was no job and no security. And his mom? She's his bigger supporter and is happy that her son worked for his own things himself. Because of this, Ayrton appreciates the value of his job. "Everything I have today, I worked for myself. My parents had to make me work for my things. My mom is super proud."

His vision for the future is to get the opportunity to explore each corner of the world and continue encountering more culture, other countries. "Practically I want to travel and take pictures."❑

## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

**ACROSS**

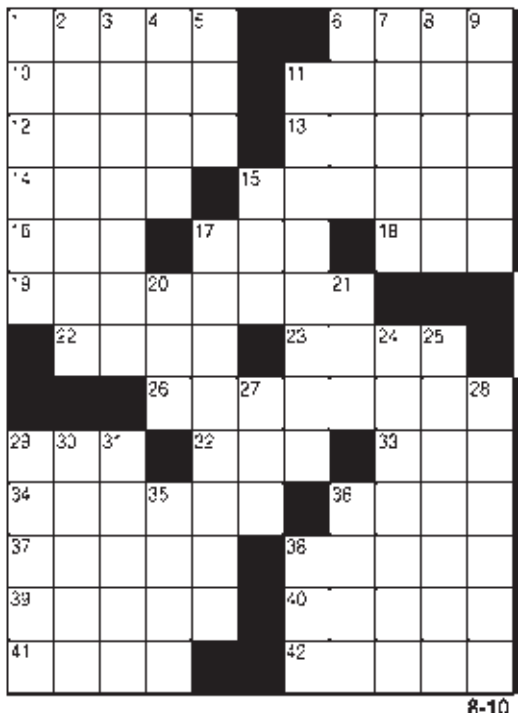
1 Pride members
6 Miles off
10 Flynn of film
11 O'Neill forte
12 Rum drink
13 Top story
14 Addition column
15 Face
16 Gift tag word
17 Polite address
18 — Alamos
19 Course sections
22 Leg bend
23 Ship staff
26 Boons for fliers
29 Golf position
32 Operated
33 Gloss target
34 Sign up
36 Dojo doings
37 Suspect's defense
38 Pool fill
39 Glossy fabric
40 News item
41 Some sheep
42 Scrumptious

**DOWN**

1 Excuse from punishment
2 Tree with tough wood
3 Get Chinese, say
4 Auction bids
5 Cunning
6 Fine study
7 Deadly
8 Pal for Pedro
9 Track events
11 Some farmers
15 Through
17 Administers an oath to
20 Game caller
21 Shop tool
24 Greets, in a way
25 Prop for Poseidon
27 Squealer
28 Sleek and stylish
29 Renter's paper
30 Spouse's kin
31 Select group
35 Wading bird
36 Coffee, slangily
38 Dripping

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | A | P | A | S | | R | A | D | A | R |
| O | V | E | R | T | | A | D | O | R | E |
| L | E | T | T | I | N | G | S | L | I | P |
| O | R | E | | F | E | E | | E | A | R |
| S | T | R | A | F | E | S | | O | D | E |
| | | | B | E | D | | S | U | N | S |
| C | O | P | E | D | | V | O | T | E | S |
| A | N | A | T | | G | I | N | | | |
| P | A | L | | G | A | N | G | S | U | P |
| A | T | E | | L | I | E | | O | N | O |
| B | E | T | T | I | N | G | S | L | I | P |
| L | A | T | I | N | | A | K | I | T | E |
| E | R | E | C | T | | R | I | D | E | S |

Yesterday's answer



8-10

A X Y D L B A A X R
is L O N G F E L L O W

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

8-10 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

V M B Y V L Y V A E N M K M W E

A Y H H B Y N O M W E K H M I Y M T B

E X V O I W M M W Y B V M P O P E S Q

Y W O N O W. — J Y H E W Q T W N O I E

**Yesterday's Cryptoquote:** A ROOM WITHOUT BOOKS IS LIKE A BODY WITHOUT A SOUL. — CICERO

# Millennial Money: When is it OK to be selfish with money?

**By LAUREN SCHWAHN of NerdWallet**

**Twenty dollar bills are counted in North Andover, Mass., on June 15, 2018.**

**Associated Press**

Amid rising inflation, interest rates and recession worries, money is getting tighter for many folks — and probably for you. Yet there may be charitable organizations you want to support, friends or family asking for financial help and things you want to buy for yourself. It's possible to do these things even on a limited budget. But if you want to be responsible with your money, you have to know where to draw the line.

When is it OK to put your own interests first? Use these criteria as guidance.

**WHEN YOUR FINANCES ARE AT RISK**

Think carefully before spending any amount of money on somebody else, whether that's $20 or $2,000. Will it jeopardize your ability to pay bills or save for emergencies? Picking up the lunch tab for a friend or helping put your kid through college shouldn't come at the cost of your own expenses and goals.

A crucial part of this assessment: Assume you'll never get the money back. There's no guarantee your loved ones will repay you, no matter how well-intentioned they may be.

"If you can't afford to give it as a gift with no expectations on your end, then you can't afford to help," says Lacy Rogers, a certified financial planner in Fort Worth, Texas.

Saving toward a "giving budget" in a designated account can create a clear separation for your spending, says Valerie Rivera, a Chicago-based CFP. If you don't have enough funds in the account, that signals that you can't spare the money.

**YOU FEEL PRESSURED TO PAY**

You're not required to hand out money even if you have the means to be generous. You have the right to say no when you feel stressed or uncomfortable. Don't let others talk you into something you'll regret.

Saying no can be challenging, especially when dealing with family or a close-knit community. Senses of guilt and obligation often cloud judgment. Your mother raised you, so the least you can do is pay her credit card debt, right? Not if it enables her to repeatedly overspend and turn to you for money.

A lot of people who are the first in their families to come to this country or go to college "can really quickly become other people's financial safety nets," Rivera says. That's a heavy burden to bear.

Having conversations about finances with loved ones early and often helps set expectations. "It's totally OK to reestablish or establish for the first time what money looks like in discussion with friends, in discussion with family," says Kate Mielitz, an accredited financial counselor, or AFC, in Tumwater, Washington.

Take time to process each money request that comes your way. Consider passing if you're concerned with getting taken advantage of or supporting harmful financial behavior.

**YOU CAN HELP IN OTHER WAYS**

Supporting the people you care about doesn't always have to cost money. Your time, skills and knowledge are valuable too.

Say you have an elderly neighbor you used to purchase groceries for. "Maybe you can't buy their groceries for them anymore but you can help them out with the yardwork, and maybe that eases the burden on them in a different way," Rogers says.

If you're unable to pitch in personally, point your loved ones in the direction of those who can. "Familiarize yourself or help your friends and family familiarize themselves with resources in the area if that's a food bank, if that is secondhand clothing, if that is job services or resume help that's in the community to help them move forward and get a stronger foot up," Mielitz says.

Visiting 211.org is one way to find assistance with basic necessities like paying utility bills or accessing food. For people who want help managing their money, Mielitz recommends setting up a free virtual appointment with an AFC through the Association for Financial Counseling & Planning Education.

**YOU'VE SET ASIDE MONEY TO TREAT YOURSELF**

Taking care of your needs and goals (and giving to others) is important. But everyone deserves a little fun, too.

"We're human and we need balance.

e can't only save for later and not enjoy life today," Rivera says.❑

# Do spiders sleep? Study suggests they may snooze like humans

By MADDIE BURAKOFF
AP Science Writer

**NEW YORK (AP) —** It's a question that keeps some scientists awake at night: Do spiders sleep?

Daniela Roessler and her colleagues trained cameras on baby jumping spiders at night to find out. The footage showed patterns that looked a lot like sleep cycles:

The spiders' legs twitched and parts of their eyes flickered.

The researchers described this pattern as a "REM sleep-like state." In humans, REM, or rapid eye movement, is an active phase of sleep when parts of the brain light up with activity and is closely linked with dreaming.

Other animals, including some birds and mammals, have been shown to experience REM sleep. But creatures like the jumping spider haven't gotten as much attention so it wasn't known if they got the same kind of sleep, said Roessler, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Konstanz in Germany.

Their findings were published Monday in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Roessler and her team dug into the sleep question after she discovered the spiders hanging at night from threads of silk in their lab containers. She had recently scooped up some jumping spiders to study, a common species with a furry brown body and four pairs of big eyes.

"It was just the most unusual thing I've ever seen," Roessler said of the suspended spiders.

The research showed the spiders' overnight movements looked a lot like REM in other species, she said like dogs or cats twitching in their sleep. And they happened in regular cycles, similar to sleep patterns in humans.

Many species similar to spiders actually don't have movable eyes, which makes it hard to compare their sleep cycles, explained study co-author Paul Shamble, an evolutionary biologist at Harvard University.

But these jumping spiders are predators that move their retinas around to change their gaze while they hunt, Shamble said. Plus, the young spiders have a see-through outer layer that gives a clear window into their bodies.

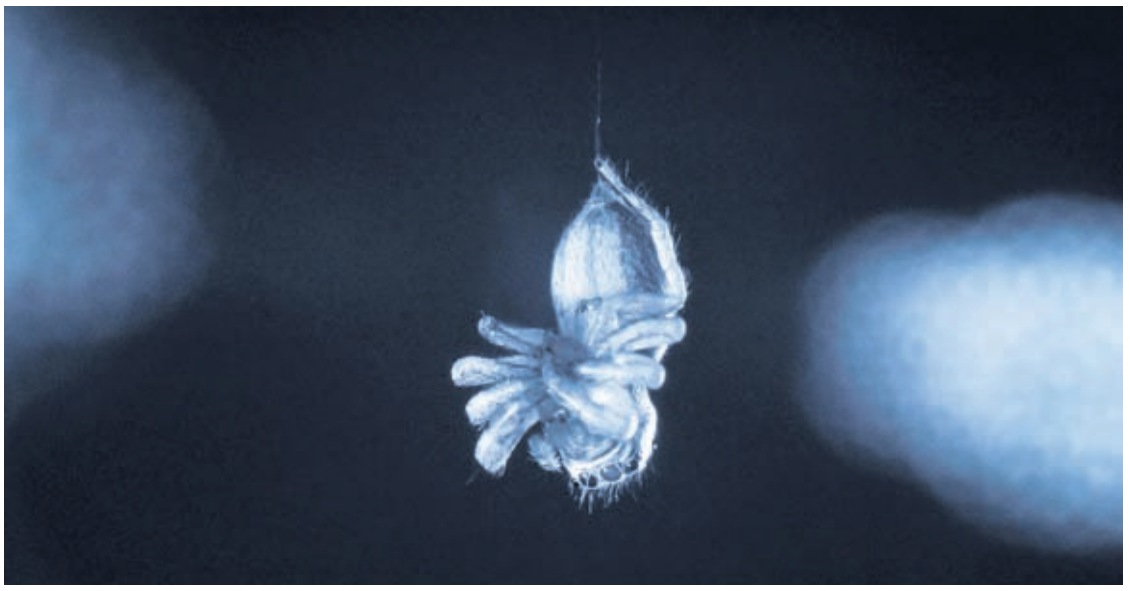
"Sometimes as a biologist, you just get really, really lucky," Shamble said.

The researchers still have to figure out if the spiders are technically sleeping while they're in these resting states, Roessler said. That includes testing whether they respond more slowly or not at all to triggers that would normally set them off.

Critters like the jumping spider are very far from humans on the evolutionary tree. Jerry Siegel, a sleep researcher who was not involved with the study, said he's doubtful that the spiders can really experience REM sleep.

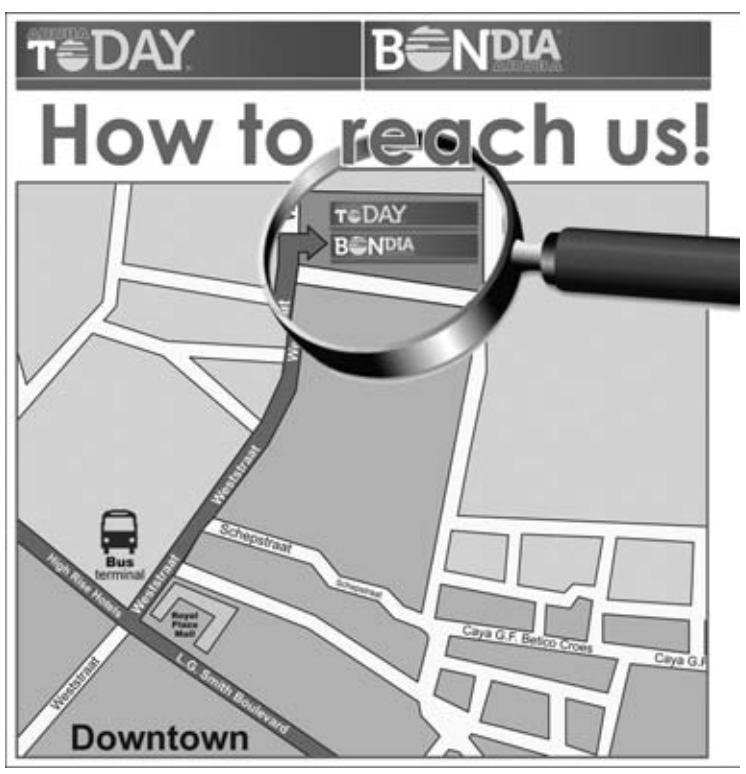
"There may be animals that have activity in quiet states," said Siegel, of the UCLA Center for Sleep Research.

"But are they REM sleep? It's hard to imagine that they could be the same thing."❑



**This photo provided by Daniela C. Roessler in August 2022 shows a jumping spider (E. arcuata) exhibiting leg curling during a REM sleep-like state.**

**Associated Press**




**FOR SALE**
**Paradise Beach Villas**
**Refurbished Townhouse,**
**For Sale** wk 32, 2bedr. 2bathr.
sleeps 6, large, 2 balc. 2 pools
great beach, sunset, 3 restau.
castem1@aol.com
Call USA 516-238-2232 USA
215577

ARUBA TODAY

**Editor**
Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

**Assistant Director**
Xiomara Arends

**Editors**
Pilar Flores
Richard Brooks

**Sales**
Sulaika Croes

**Classifieds**
classified@cspnv.com

**Distribution and Collection**
accounting@bondia.com

**Social / Website**
Juan Luis Pinto

**Columnists**
Anthony Croes

Weststraat 22
T: 582-7800
E: news@arubatoday.com
W: www.arubatoday.com
@arubatoday

## HEALTH

### DOCTOR ON DUTY

**Oranjestad**
Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

**San Nicolas**
Imsan 24 hours
Tel.524 8833

### PHARMACY ON DUTY

**Oranjestad:**
Sta. Anna Tel. 586 8181
**San Nicolas:**
San Lucas Tel. 584 5119

### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

### EMERGENCY

| | |
|---|---|
| Police | 100 |
| Oranjestad | 527 3140 |
| Noord | 527 3200 |
| Sta. Cruz | 527 2900 |
| San Nicolas | 584 5000 |
| Police Tipline | 11141 |
| Ambulancia | 911 |
| Fire Dept. | 115 |
| Red Cross | 582 2219 |

### TAXI SERVICES

| | |
|---|---|
| Taxi Tas | 587 5900 |
| Prof. Taxi | 588 0035 |
| Taxi D.T.S. | 587 2300 |
| Taxi Serv. Aruba | 583 3232 |
| A1 Taxi Serv. | 280 2828 |

### TRAVEL INFO

| | |
|---|---|
| Aruba Airport | 524 2424 |
| American Airlines | 582 2700 |
| Avianca | 588 0059 |
| Jet Blue | 588 2244 |
| Surinam | 582 7896 |

### AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118

Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/arubatoday/

# Jennette McCurdy rises above childhood trauma with new book

By ALICIA RANCILIO
Associated Press

Jennette McCurdy is well-aware the title of her new book, "I'm Glad My Mom Died," (Simon & Schuster) is attention-grabbing. She also readily admits that she means every word. "It's something that I mean sincerely, I'm not saying it to be flippant." McCurdy, who co-starred in Nickelodeon shows "iCarly" with Miranda Cosgrove and its spin-off " Sam & Cat " opposite Ariana Grande, hopes readers will understand why she makes such a bold statement,

"I hope that readers feel that by the end of it, 'this makes sense.'" The 30-year-old writes in her book that her mother Debra "was a narcissist" who "emotionally, mentally and physically abused" her. She pushed McCurdy into an acting career as a child and encouraged her to have an eating disorder, McCurdy says. Her mother insisted on giving her daughter showers through her late teens, claiming she didn't wash her hair correctly, McCurdy says. It wasn't until seeking therapy after her mother's death from complications of cancer in 2013 that McCurdy began to fully deal with the trauma she was put through. Before therapy, McCurdy, was drinking excessively and had unhealthy romantic relationships. Now after years of work on herself, she's sharing her story with the world.

Former actress Jennette McCurdy, author of the memoir "I'm Glad My Mom Died," poses for a portrait, Thursday, July 28, 2022, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Writing the book, she says, was an emotional rollercoaster. McCurdy, who hosts a podcast called " Empty Inside, " spoke with The Associated Press about looking back, therapy and how she may return to work in front of the camera.

Answers have been edited for clarity and length.

**AP: It's one thing to come to realizations about your childhood through therapy but another to share those discoveries with the world. What made you want to put it out there, first in a one-woman show (also called "I'm Glad My Mom Died") and now in a book?**

**McCurdy**: I think finding shape is very important. There's certainly many stages of processing. Processing the events that happened in my childhood took so long in therapy. I needed to do so much of that excavating work on my own.

**AP: When you think back now about your childhood and your mom, what do you think?**

**McCurdy:** My grandfather passed away a few years ago, and I got to really experience what I consider a more conventional grieving process of a really close family member... It was heartbreaking and devastating. With my mother's death, I'd go from being so, so deeply angry to then feeling just so sorry for her. And so I could feel compassion and sympathy and then just anger and rage. I'd cry because I missed her and I'd be angry that I was crying that I missed her and feel she doesn't deserve these tears. I think abusive love is so complicated ... It's going to be mixed and messy.

**AP: Your book is also a reminder of how you never really know what's going on with someone because people would watch you on these shows and maybe think, 'Oh, she's got it all.'**

**McCurdy:** Now my life is very boring. At the time, being on this children's television show that's so glossy and so polished and so exactly like perfect ... my actual life felt so the opposite. Living in that dichotomy felt really confusing. But also now in retrospect, I see that there's a lot of humor in that.

As agonizing as it is to be in the ambulance with my mother while she's convulsing in the middle of a seizure, to look up and see my face (on a billboard) felt like my life was mocking me.

**AP: Are you definitely done with acting?**

**McCurdy:** Recently, and only since writing the book, there's been a part of me that's like, you know, maybe I'll write something for myself. I could see something like that happening where I think there's a version of acting that could potentially be healing for me now, especially if I were the one sort of writing the thing.

**AP: Now we should really shout out how great it is when you find the right therapist.**

**McCurdy:** It's so important, right? You've got to try a couple because you're going to get some doozies. You're going to get some people who just make you feel worse. They're like very preoccupied with their doodling or whatever they're doing.

**AP: Are you still in therapy?**

**McCurdy:** I am. I just saw my therapist yesterday. It's funny because now if I look at my journal notes from when I first started therapy, it's like, how many times did I binge and purge today? And, like, trying to have a better relationship with alcohol. Now it feels like little tuneups or thinking about turning 30. What an amazing thing to be able to go into a therapy session and just talk about (expletive) turning 30.❑

# Kenan Thompson of 'SNL' to host Sept. 12 Emmy Awards

**LOS ANGELES (AP) —** Veteran "Saturday Night Live" cast member Kenan Thompson will host next month's Emmy Awards.

"Being a part of this incredible evening where we honor the best of the television community is ridiculously exciting, and to do it on NBC my longtime network family makes it even more special," Thompson said in a statement Tuesday.

Thompson has been with NBC's late-night sketch show since 2003 and returns for his 20th season this fall. His work on "SNL" has earned him a trio of Emmy supporting acting nominations, and he won a trophy in 2018 as lyrics co-writer of the song "Come Back, Barack," which was featured on the show.

He earned a lead acting nomination last year for his sitcom "Kenan," which NBC canceled in May after two seasons.

Thompson was an original cast member of Nickelodeon's children's sketch comedy series "All That" and starred with Kel Mitchell on the spinoff "Kenan and Kel."

His film credits include "Clifford the Big Red Dog" and "Barbershop 2: Back in Business." The Sept. 12 Emmy ceremony will air live on NBC and be carried on its streaming sibling Peacock. Top nominees include the dramas "Succession" and "Squid Game" and comedies "Ted Lasso," "Hacks" and "Only Murders in the Building."❑

Actor-comedian Kenan Thompson appears at the American Museum of Natural History's 2019 Museum Gala on Nov. 21, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

# Serena Williams says 'countdown has begun' to retirement

**By HOWARD FENDRICH**
**AP Tennis Writer**

Saying "the countdown has begun," 23-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams announced Tuesday she is ready to step away from tennis so she can turn her focus to having another child and her business interests, presaging the end of a career that transcended sports.

In an essay released Tuesday by Vogue magazine, and a post on Instagram the sorts of direct-to-fans communication favored these days by celebrities, a category she most definitely fits Williams was not completely clear on the timeline for her last match, but she made it sound as if that could be at the U.S. Open, which begins Aug. 29 in New York.

**Serena Williams waves as she leaves the court after losing to France's Harmony Tan in a first round women's singles match on day two of the Wimbledon tennis championships in London, Tuesday, June 28, 2022.**

**Associated Press**

"There comes a time in life when we have to decide to move in a different direction. That time is always hard when you love something so much. My goodness do I enjoy tennis. But now, the countdown has begun," Williams, who turns 41 next month, wrote on Instagram. "I have to focus on being a mom, my spiritual goals and finally discovering a different, but just (as) exciting Serena. I'm gonna relish these next few weeks."

Williams, one of the greatest and most accomplished athletes in the history of her or any other sport, wrote in the essay that she does not like the word "retirement" and prefers to think of this stage of her life as "evolving away from tennis, toward other things that are important to me."

"I feel a great deal of pain. It's the hardest thing that I could ever imagine. I hate it. I hate that I have to be at this crossroads," she wrote. "I keep saying to myself, I wish it could be easy for me, but it's not. I'm torn: I don't want it to be over, but at the same time I'm ready for what's next."

That she would be publicly contemplating the end of her playing days is not all that surprising to anyone, given her age her 10 Grand Slam titles after turning 30 are unsurpassed her history of injuries and her recent record: one victory in a singles match in the past 12 months (that win arrived Monday in Toronto; she is scheduled to play again on Wednesday).

Her status as an athlete, and a groundbreaker, is obvious to everyone.

"Serena Williams is a generational, if not multi-generational, talent who had a profound impact on the game of tennis, but an even greater influence on women in sports, business and society. At a time when our nation and the world have wrestled with essential issues of identity, Serena has stood as a singular exemplar of the best of humanity after breaking through countless barriers to her participation and ultimate success," U.S. Open tournament director Stacey Allaster said. "She leaves an indelible legacy of grace and grit that will inspire athletes, female and male, for many generations to come. We can't thank her enough for all she has done for our sport."

U.S. Tennis Association spokesman Chris Widmaier said the organization would "will be operating under the assumption that this will be Serena Williams' last U.S. Open."

It is the year's final Grand Slam event and one she has won six times, most recently in 2014, to go along with seven titles apiece at Wimbledon and the Australian Open, plus three at the French Open, across a career remarkable for its peaks and its longevity.

She also owns 14 Grand Slam doubles championships, all won with her older sister, Venus, part of a remarkable tale of two siblings from Compton, California, who grew up to both be ranked No. 1, win dozens of trophies and dominate tennis for stretches a story told in the Oscar-winning film "King Richard."

Venus, who is 42 and still competing, was the first in the family to break through, reaching her first Grand Slam final at the 1997 U.S. Open. But it was Serena who soon surpassed her sister, winning the 1999 U.S. Open at age 17 and then going on to add 22 more such triumphs (Venus won seven major singles titles), eventually establishing herself as a one-of-a-kind superstar, known for far more than her talent with a racket in hand.

The younger Williams was armed with as effective a serve as there's ever been, powerful forehands and backhands, instincts and speed that allowed her to cover every inch of a court and switch from defense to offense in a blink, and an enviable will to win. That unflinching desire to be the best helped make her the best and also sometimes got her into trouble with chair umpires during matches, most infamously during the 2018 U.S. Open final she lost to Naomi Osaka, a woman more than a decade younger who grew up idolizing Williams, as have so many of today's players.

The official Twitter feed for Wimbledon posted this message Tuesday above a photo of Williams: "Some play the game. Others change it."

"I don't particularly like to think about my legacy. I get asked about it a lot, and I never know exactly what to say. But I'd like to think that thanks to opportunities afforded to me, women athletes feel that they can be themselves on the court," Williams wrote. "They can play with aggression and pump their fists. They can be strong yet beautiful. They can wear what they want and say what they want and kick butt and be proud of it all."

The American has won more Grand Slam singles titles in the professional era than any other woman or man. Only one player, Margaret Court, collected more, 24, although the Australian won a portion of hers in the amateur era.

"I'd be lying if I said I didn't want that record. Obviously I do. But day to day, I'm really not thinking about her. If I'm in a Grand Slam final, then yes, I am thinking about that record," Williams said. "Maybe I thought about it too much, and that didn't help. The way I see it, I should have had 30-plus Grand Slams."

But, Williams went on to write, "These days, if I have to choose between building my tennis resume and building my family, I choose the latter."

She and her husband, Reddit co-founder Alexis Ohanian, have a daughter, Olympia, who turns 5 on Sept. 1.

"Believe me, I never wanted to have to choose between tennis and a family. I don't think it's fair," said Williams, who was pregnant when she won the 2017 Australian Open for her last Grand Slam trophy. "If I were a guy, I wouldn't be writing this because I'd be out there playing and winning while my wife was doing the physical labor of expanding our family."

Williams said she and Ohanian want to have a second baby, and wrote: "I definitely don't want to be pregnant again as an athlete. I need to be two feet into tennis or two feet out."

She was off the tour for about a year after getting injured during her first-round match at Wimbledon in 2021. She returned to singles competition at the All England Club this June and lost in the first round.

"Unfortunately I wasn't ready to win Wimbledon this year. And I don't know if I will be ready to win New York," Williams wrote in her essay. "But I'm going to try."

Williams hints in the Vogue essay that the U.S. Open will be her last tournament but does not say so explicitly.

"I'm not looking for some ceremonial, final on-court moment," Williams wrote. "I'm terrible at goodbyes, the world's worst."❑

# Monahan underestimated only the loyalty of players

**By DOUG FERGUSON**
**AP Golf Writer**

On different occasions in golf's summer of discontent, Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy delivered key messages that illustrate what PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan got wrong.

McIlroy was asked at the U.S. Open if he had lost respect for players in their prime years who were taking guaranteed cash from Saudi-funded LIV Golf, with its 54-hole events and 48-man fields, no cut and not much of an audience.

"I don't understand for the guys that are a similar age to me going because I would like to believe that my best days are still ahead of me, and I think theirs are, too," McIlroy said. "So that's where it feels like you're taking the easy way out."

At the British Open a month later, Woods left little doubt where he stood on players who had defected to the rival league run by Greg Norman. "I disagree with it," Woods said. "I think what they've done is they've turned their back on what has allowed them to get to this position." Monahan didn't underestimate the threat of Saudi money or the damage it could inflict on a tour that hasn't been challenged for 50 years. Otherwise, he wouldn't have bothered with an 898-word memo in January 2020 warning players they would have to pick one league or the other, even contemplating changes to the PGA Tour's regulations if necessary.

What he underestimated was the loyalty of his players.

Too many are willing to take the easy way out.

Too many are turning their backs on the very tour that made them worth watching, all because of financial offers that turned their heads.

Deane Beman said as much in an interview with Golfweek magazine. He was the commissioner from 1974 to 1994 and largely responsible for the model that led to the PGA Tour becoming the ultimate destination in golf.

**PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan speaks during a news conference before the Travelers Championship golf tournament at TPC River Highlands, on June 22, 2022, in Cromwell, Conn.**

**Associated Press**

"You don't build loyalty and appreciation into a model like we built for the tour," Beman said. "That's up to the integrity of the individual and the appreciation of what's been done for them."

Monahan leaned on the phrase "legacy, not leverage," a clever play on words after Phil Mickelson had been exposed in a series of published comments in February that his main interest in the Saudi-backed league was to get leverage for changes on the PGA Tour he felt were long overdue.

But it's not about legacy, either. It's not about history.

And it's not about the bluster of playing less for more. Why else would 10 players — Carlos Ortiz has asked that his name be removed from the lawsuit, according to his manager — take the money and run to federal court in California to file an antitrust lawsuit against the PGA Tour?

Nothing motivates like money, and golf wasn't immune. Players who say they were attracted to the team concept of LIV Golf either never played in a Ryder Cup or realized they had played for the last time. Players made choices and those should be respected. And they were, until the inevitable lawsuit filed last week that demands the right to eat fruit from every tree in the garden.

Norman speaks of finally bringing free agency to golf, leaving out the part about players signing contracts with LIV Golf that require them to play certain events.

The Saudi threat under any name was real and there wasn't much Monahan could have done to stop it, not with that much money from the Public Investment Fund at Norman's disposal.

Imagine if Monahan had listened and struck a deal years ago, before Norman got involved and turned this into a vendetta. Would the PGA Tour not have risked the wrath of a large chunk of its fan base that now criticizes every player for taking Saudi money controlled by a repressive regime with an abominable record on human rights?

Monahan should no longer be surprised by anyone who pledges support one week and leaves the next week.

That was the case with Brooks Koepka in June. He was at a Rolex function on Monday of the U.S. Open, rallying the troops to speak loudly and clearly for the PGA Tour. Then he had an offer he couldn't ignore and was gone a week later.

That was the case with Bryson DeChambeau when he wrote in February, "I want to make it very clear that as long as the best players in the world are playing the PGA Tour, so will I." It would be interesting to know his definition of "best" since LIV Golf has only one player — Dustin Johnson — from the top 20 in the world ranking.

The PGA Tour's postseason starts this week, but not before a federal judge decides whether to allow three defectors to compete in the FedEx Cup playoffs. The fall portion of the new season will include two events in California — one a tournament in Napa, another the initial case management conference for the antitrust lawsuit.

Beman was asked by Golfweek if he could see anything positive coming from this disruption.

"Not that I see," he said. "Maybe demasking the integrity of some individuals. Their real stripes are showing. Some of the people who have benefited enormously from what the tour has put together are fully disclosing their integrity."

More players are likely to follow after the FedEx Cup. Rumors are flying, and those can't be trusted, either. Words have never been more hollow.

Monahan should know by now that a game built on integrity only applies inside the ropes.❑